Board to import 100 tonnes of raw silk from China, during the current year.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A National Sericulture Project has been formulated by the Central Silk Board in collaboration with State Governments. The project is proposed to be implemented with the World Bank Assistance. A Pre-Apreisal Mission from the Bank is presently in India to discuss the details of this project.

Setting up of a weaving and spinning mill in Guntur district in Andhra Pradesh

1327. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh is a cotton growing area;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to consider the question of setting up of a composite weaving and spinning mill in the district; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Proposals for the licensing of new textile mills are considered within the framework of the present industrial licensing policy.

Evasion of excise duty

1328. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Managing Director of "Manufacturing Technologies India Ltd." was arrested for evading excise duty worth 3 crores but let off according to the news-item which appeared in the *Tribune* dated the 20th January, 1988; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to order an enquiry into the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Managing Director of "Manufacturing Technologies India Ltd" was arrested under the Central Excises an Salt Act, 1944 for evasion of excise duty on 20th December 1986 and later released on bail by the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Ropar. Departmental proceedings for alleged evasion of excise and customs duty to the tune of Rs. 1,37,30,168/- and Rs. 1,67,31,805.20 respectively are in progress. As order of detention under section 3(1) of the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974 was passed in respect of Shri C. S. Bains, Managing Director of "Manufacturing Technologies India Ltd." B-103 Phase VIII, Mohali by the Government of Punjab on 26th June 1987. Subsequently, on the basis of representations received, the matter was reviewed and the order of detention dated 26th June 1987 was revoked under clause (a) of sub-section (1) of section 11 of the said Act *ibid* by the Government of Punjab on 19th October 1987.

(b) No, Sir.

Special loan sought for by Kerala Government

1329. SHRI M A. BABY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala Government has asked for a special ways and means advance of rupees 80 to 100 crores to be recovered in easy instalments during the course of the next five years, a special market borrowing programme and the rescheduling of the repayment of Central loans; and

(b) if so, what is Central Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Such special concessions have not been extended to any State Government.